WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH.
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BALA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1956.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the health report for the year ending the 31st. December 1956.

The general health of the Community remained good, there being no epidemics or outbreaks of Food Poisoning.

It is encouraging to note that there was an increase of 60 in the Registrar General's estimate of the population.

The number of live births was increased by 7 over the previous year, and the number of deaths was 6 fewer.

There was one fewer death from cancer of the lung,and bronchus being the same, viz. one.

There were no deaths from tuberculosis, and no new notifications of this disease in 1956.

I wish to thank Mr. D. J. Jones for his co-operation during the year.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Urban District in acres	659
Rateable Value	16621
Population (Registrar General's figures)	1570
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£ 63. 0. 8.466
Number of inhabitated houses (according to the Rate Books) at end of year.	565

COMPARABILITY FACTORS

Births	1.09
Deaths	0.88

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

Nett Births (Live and Still) - 31

Births (Live) - 30

Births (Still) - 1

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population - 19.11

Live Births - 30

	Males	Females
Total	12	18
Legitimate	11	17
Illegitimate	1	1

Illegitimate Birth Rate (Percentage of total live births) - 6.66

DEATHS

Total number - 24 Males 17 Females 7

Rate per 1,000 population 15.28

1955 figures 19.87

Deaths of Infants under One Year	Males	Females
Total	1	-
Legitimate	1	-
Illegitimate	-	-

Infant Mortality (Rate per 1,000 Live Births) - 33.33

1955 figures - Nil

Deaths of Legitimate Infants Mortality (per 1,000 live births) - 33.33

Deaths of Illegitimate Infants - Nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 Weeks

	Males	Females
Total		
Legitimate	Nil	Nil
Illegitimate		

Maternal Mortality.

Deaths connected with childbirth and pregnancy - Nil

Deaths from Cancer - Total 4

Rate per 1,000 population - 2.55

Deaths from Tuberculosis - Total Nil

Rate per 1,000 population - Nil.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. Public Health Officers of the Authority.

One Medical Officer of Health.
One Public Health Inspector.

2. Laboratory Facilities

Water analysis (Chemical) carried out by Mr. Harold Lowe, Public Analyst, Chester.

Water analysis (Bacteriological) and milk examination for cleanliness and keeping quality by the Public Health Laboratory Conway and Aberystwyth.

3. Ambulance Facilities

One ambulance stationed in Bala.

4. Infant Welfare Clinics.

Held every fortnight at Hafan Bala.

5. Ante Natal Clinics.

Held at Hafan, Bala once a month.

6. Orthopaedic Clinic

Held at Hafan, Bala once a month.

7. Tuberculosis Clinic

Held at the Cottage Hospital Dolgelley twice a month.

8. Diphtheria Immunisation

Arranged by the County Medical Officer of Health. Immunisation of babies and young infants is carried out at regular intervals at the Primary School.

9. Hospitals.

There is no hospital within the Urban area.

10. Infectious Diseases.

Total number of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year - 2

Scarlet Fever	-
Bacillary Dysentry	-
Whooping Cough	-
Measles	2
Infantile Paralysis	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases	Male	Female
Pulmonary	Nil	Nil
Non-Pulmonary	Nil	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS

Pulmonary	Nil	Nil
Non-Pulmonary	Nil	Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH 1956

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Cancer Stomach	1	-
" Lungs	1	-
" Breast	-	-
" other sites	2	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	-
Coronary diseases, angina	1	1
Hypertension with heart disease	1	-
Other heart diseases	2	2
Other circulatory disease	-	2
Influenza	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-
Bronchitis	1	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	1
Motor Vehicle accidents	-	-
All other accidents	1	-
Suicide	-	-
Total	17	7

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1946.

No action was taken under this Act during 1955, but co-operation with the County Welfare department was maintained in the cases of elderly people living alone.

BALA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 1956.

1. HOUSING. No. of inspections 246

Notices issued .

(a) Preliminary under Public Health Act 41

(b) Preliminary under Housing Acts 44

Statutory Notices issued

(a) Under Public Health Acts 2

(b) Under Housing Acts 6

Statutory Notices complied with

(a) Under Public Health Acts 1

(b) Under Housing Acts 3

2. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS. (Housing Act 1949)

Approved 3

Completed 3

No new houses were built during the year by the Council but the first post-war private house to be built in the district was completed and occupied.

3. MILK SAMPLES.

Samples taken for Statutory testing at Public Health Laboratories Conway 9

No. of samples found not to comply with Statutory test. 3

4. DAIRIES(TWO) These are inspected regularly and are kept satisfactorily.

5. RODENT CONTROL (Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1954)

No. of inspections 254

Treatment carried out by parttime operator as required. The refuse tip and sewers regularly treated.

DETAILS OF MEAT CONDEMNED

Cattle.

Injuries and Bruising	83 lbs.
Fluke	11 whole livers.
Parasitic condition	4 pairs lungs 1 head.
Tuberuclosis and other diseases.	Nil.

Sheep

Fluke	27	whole livers.
Other Parasitic infections	17	pairs lungs 2 kidneys.
Total condemnation	3	1 extensive injury 1 septicaemia 1 emaciation - fluke
Bruising and other causes	35	lbs.

Pigs.

Injury	27	lbs
Parasitic infections	5	whole livers 2 kidneys
Other diseases	Nil	

Tinned Foods

Meat	- 23
Soups	- 11
Vegetables	- 13
Fruit	- 31
Milk	- 9
Others	- 12

6. SHOPS ACTS FOOD PREMISES, HOTELS, CAFES etc

No. of visits	- 272
No. of instances of food condemned or surrendered	- 27

During the year the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 made under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 came into force. To assist all concerned a copy of the regulations together with an explanatory leaflet was sent to all premises concerned in the handling of food.

The main difficulty was the sections dealing with the provision of washing facilities on mobile stalls or vans. There appears to be a lack of uniformity on the interpretation of the relevant sections by various Local Authorities.

7. WATER SAMPLES (Public Supply)

No. of samples taken during year - 3

These were sent to the Public Health Laboratories at Conway for Bacteriological examination and were all satisfactory.

8. SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS. There is one private slaughterhouse situate at Plasey.

No. of animals slaughtered:-

Cattle	- 141
Sheep	- 1703
Pigs	- 229
Calves	- 1

This is an increase of over 25% on the number of animals slaughtered last year.